



# The Learning Lamp

Where Military Experience and Public Education Meet

Arizona Troops to Teachers

Volume I Issue 2

March 2006

## Director's Message

I would like to start this issue of *The Learning Lamp* with a thank you to all of you. It seems that most of the feedback I have received on the Newsletter has been favorable. It is my sincere hope that this format bridges the miles between all of you and this office. I also welcome any recommendations on improvements, not only to the Newsletter but the way we work together. I hope to build a great sense of community for Arizona Troops to Teachers. As we grow in numbers, community is what we will need.

I am trying to make myself more readily available to each of you. Yes, it makes strategic sense for the office to be located at the state Department of Education, and in the certification office to be specific, especially with nearly half of you living in Maricopa County. I have made arrangements to be available at the "satellite" certification offices in Flagstaff and Tucson as indicated in the schedule below. For those in the Sierra Vista area, I will be at Fort Huachuca ACAP on Thursday, February 24th. I will have a presentation from 9am to 9:30am but will be avail-

able for the entire day to meet with you. Davis-Monthan is working on allowing me a day on base in March.

Let me also tell you a little of what happened at the annual state managers meeting in DC. We (TTT) have received funding as part of the President's budget. That does not, however, secure the continuance of Troops to Teachers. As part of NCLB, Troops to Teachers will undergo a process toward reauthorization. It was pretty unanimous that all the state directors made their voices known that the "new" rules USDOE has applied toward stipends/bonuses is detrimental to the intentions of our program. Though Arizona was not effected to any great extent, other states have been, some with no stipend eligible schools in their state. There are congressional leaders taking a stand in support of Troops to Teachers, most notably Representative Thomas Petri (R-WI), Vice Chairman for the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Of course, there is strength in numbers and if you would like to have input to reauthorize



Arizona Depr of Education  
Tom Horne, Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

Troops to Teachers, or make a statement regarding the rules established by USDOE for financial assistance, I would recommend you correspond with Representative Raul M. Grijalva, 7th District, Arizona, who is also a committee member on the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

His office address is:

810 E 22nd St, Suite 102  
Yuma, Arizona 85713

As always, we are here to support you in your "second career." If you ever have questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to bring them to our attention.

Also, see the latest DANTES Bulletin (newsletter) at

[www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)

## Inside this issue:

Director's Message 1  
Director's Travel 1

Certification News 2  
• Fingerprints 2  
• Renewals 2  
• MS Mathematics 3  
• Performance Assessment 3

Teaching the Holo- 3

National Board Cert. 4

Alternative Path 4

JROTC 4

Teacher Prep Programs 4

Vet's News 5

Upcoming Events 5

Kudos 5

Recommended Reading 6

Great Arizona Teach-In 7

## Important Info/Dates:

- Please review your fingerprint card expiration date
- SEI Provisional Endorsement requirements must be met by August 31, 2006
- For many teachers, you must meet highly qualified by the end of SY05-06
- **PLEASE Notify this office is you contract, move, change email, etc.**

## Director's Travel Schedule

Flagstaff Certification Office,  
2384 Steves Blvd, Rm #137,  
Flagstaff, AZ 86004  
(928) 679-8117

February 7, April 28, June 30,  
August 25, October 27, December 29

Tucson Certification Office,  
400 W. Congress St. #118,  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
(520) 628-6326

March 24, May 26, July 28, September 29, November 24

- Feb 23: Fort Huachuca, ACAP, 9am
- March 20, Davis-Monthan AFB, ESO, Bldg 3200, Room 243, 10am
- July 16-23: DoD Worldwide Education Symposium, Orlando

# CERTIFICATION NEWS

## Fingerprints



*We cannot have a successful education system unless all children who come to school not knowing English become proficient in English as quickly as possible, and succeed academically. We are committed 100 percent to helping the schools achieve that success.*

-State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Horne, Tucson Citizen, September 3, 2003.

**Keep current:** See "Flores Law" in the News and Events section of the Arizona Department of Education web page at [www.ade.az.gov](http://www.ade.az.gov).

As you are probably aware, Arizona Revised Statute A.R.S. §15-534(A) requires that a person who applies for a certificate shall have a valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Department of Public Safety. A.R.S. §12-534(B) requires that "A person who is certified...shall maintain a valid fingerprint clearance card during the valid period of the person's certificate or certificates."

It is the individual teacher's responsibility to maintain current fingerprint cards for the duration of any certification. Teachers found to be teaching without a valid fingerprint card may be reported to the hiring district and may be suspended without pay until a valid fingerprint card is obtained.

In the near future you may start receiving email notification from this office a month or two before your fingerprint expires, as a friendly reminder to update your fingerprint card.

To obtain an application packet for fingerprint clearance card, contact the Arizona Department of Public Safety. A fee of \$52 (check or money order only) is required. Note that in many locations, your local police department will "roll" your fingerprints for a nominal fee. It is suggested that you check with your SRO (on campus police officer) who will usually provide the service at no charge. Also, if you have base access, Security will usually do this for you at no charge. Base phone numbers:

Luke AFB, 623-856-1110

D-M AFB, 520-228-3500

Ft Huachuca, 520-538-2102

MCAS Yuma, 928-269-2361

Department of Public Safety:

PO Box 18390

Phoenix, AZ 85005

602-223-2279

## Renewals and Conversions

### Certification Vocabulary 101

- **Renewal:** If you have a standard (6yr) certificate and wish to "renew" it for another 6 years (to keep a standard certification current)
- **Conversion:** If you have a provisional (2yr) certificate, have satisfied the requirements, and are ready to move into a standard (6yr) certificate. ("upgrade" from 2yr to 6 yr)

Remember, there are requirements to be met for both renewal and conversion:

- **Renewal** requires 180 clock hours of professional development during the 6 year certification period, or 12 semester hours relevant to education or to content of the certified approved area. You can "mix and match" professional development and credits, i.e. 90 clock hours of p.d. and 6 credits.
- **Conversion** requires two years full time verified teaching experience during the provisional certification period. If you can not meet the two year teaching requirement, you may apply for a one time 2 year "extension" thus allowing 4 years to fulfill the 2 year teaching requirement. If, after receiving an extension, you still have not accumulated 2 years teaching experience, you will have to re-apply "from scratch"



## Middle School Mathematics

Beginning in the Spring of 2006, Secondary Education teachers will be able to become certified with an approved area of "Middle School Mathematics." The Middle School Mathematics Subject Knowledge AEPA (#37) will be available beginning with the April 8, 2006 AEPA administration.

The company administering the AEPAs, National Evaluation

Systems Inc, has made a study guide and test objectives available to view/download ([www.aepa.nesinc.com](http://www.aepa.nesinc.com)).

The AZ Troops to Teachers office, as well as the certification offices in Flagstaff and Tucson have AEPA bulletins available to Troops at no cost.

Additionally, if you hold an elementary certification, you

may obtain the approved area of "Middle Grade Mathematics" if you have accumulated 24 semester hours in math coursework. Coursework that can be applied toward the approved area for elementary certified teachers is listed to the right. Elementary teachers desiring to use credits (vice AEPA) for the approved area, must apply before April 8th.

Calculus  
Algebra  
Trigonometry  
Intro Number Theory & Modern Algebra  
Formal Mathematical Reasoning  
Topics in Geometry  
Statistics  
Quantitative Analysis

You may view/download AZ math standards at: [www.ade.az.gov/standards/contentstandards.asp](http://www.ade.az.gov/standards/contentstandards.asp)

## Performance Assessment

Beginning June 1, 2006, teachers obtaining their initial teaching certification will be required to pass the Performance Assessment to convert to a Standard six year certification. The Performance Assessment will require a video tape of one's teaching, written commentary, and supporting evidence. Descriptions of the process and materials and methods to support new teachers who will be affected are being developed.

The Performance Assessment is for the purpose of licensure

and quality assurance that new teachers can demonstrate competence in the Arizona Professional Teaching Standards. The Assessment will not replace building principal observations and evaluations which serve for purposes of continued employment. Just as students are given a number of opportunities to pass AIMS, teachers will be allowed to attempt the Performance Assessment up to five times. We recommend testing in third year of career to allow opportunity to practice and

refine initial teaching skills.

Until June 1, 2006, two years full time, verified teaching experience will suffice in lieu of the Performance Assessment to convert any Provisional Certificate to Standard Certificate. Questions concerning Performance Assessment can be addressed to Lisa Kelley, Education Program Specialist, Highly Qualified Professionals, [lisa.kelley@azed.gov](mailto:lisa.kelley@azed.gov), (602) 364-2191, or the [AZ Troops to Teachers State Director](#).

*Are you a competent teacher? The "new" Performance Assessment will determine what teachers progress from the provisional certification to the standard certification.*

## Attention Social Studies/History/English Teachers

Arizona State University is hosting Teaching About the Holocaust Conference, sponsored by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The conference will be held at ASU March 16-18 in the Education Lecture Hall. This conference is presented for teachers focusing on content and pedagogy that sensitively, but actively promotes justice, compassion, and tolerance in human relations. The content augments history, social studies, and English standards. In addition,

- Attendance is free
- Funding is provided for your substitute when you

attend the entire program.

- In-Service credit
- Complementary one year free membership to the Holocaust Memorial Museum.
- Parking, lunch and free educational materials provided.

To learn more visit ASU College of Education: <http://coe.asu.edu.newsblog> or the Holocaust Memorial Museum at [www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org)

Applications are also available at the Holocaust Museum website.

## VA Reimbursement for National Board Certification

The Department of Veterans Affairs is currently allowing reimbursement to eligible veterans up to \$2000 for National Board Certification fees. To receive this benefit, veterans must be eligible for Montgomery GI Bill, VEAP, or DEA (Dependent's Education Assistance). The reimbursement will cover the initial attempt and any subsequent "retakes". The National Board Certification is the highest credential in the teaching profession. It is a voluntary, rigorous performance based assessment that measures what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. The process takes between one and three

Years to complete. Teachers who achieve National Board Certification may also be eligible for additional financial support from local school districts and the state.

For more information on becoming a National Board Certified Teacher call 1-800-22TEACH, visit [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org), or contact Lisa Kelley at the AZ Department of education (602) 364-2191 [lkelly@ade.az.gov](mailto:lkelly@ade.az.gov).

For information on reimbursement and the application, contact 1-888-GI-BILL-1 or visit [www.gibill.va.gov/education](http://www.gibill.va.gov/education).

## Alternative Secondary Path To Certification (ASPC)

Still haven't earned your teaching certification? Do you desire to teach high school? Well, Arizona's pilot program "Alternative Secondary Path to Certification" just may be what you've been waiting for. You may have read about this same program in the *Arizona Republic* in their sensationalized term "Instant Teacher." Though you are not an instant teacher, this particular program has many facets that bridge mid career changers, such as our Troops, to classroom teachers. Benefits of the program include:

- Teach immediately following the summer training program and receive full

teacher salary and benefits

- Tuition reimbursement may be available if you teach in a high need school and meet certain other requirements.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree or above
- 3.0 or higher GPA
- Passing score on the Subject Knowledge AEPA
- Valid fingerprint card
- "Letter of Intent to Hire" from a participating school district

Participating Districts:

- Kayenta Unified  
[www.kayenta.k12.az.us](http://www.kayenta.k12.az.us)
- Deer Valley Unified  
[www.dvUSD.k12.az.us](http://www.dvUSD.k12.az.us)
- Glendale Union HSD  
[www.guhsdaz.org](http://www.guhsdaz.org)

Other Districts who have pending applications to partner with ADE in ASPC:

- Phoenix Union HSD
- Dysart Unified

- Districts in Cochise County (to include Bisbee, Tombstone, Douglas, Wilcox, Bowie, San Simon, Valley Union, Benson, Sierra Vista)

For more information, visit

[www.ade.az.gov/asd/altpath](http://www.ade.az.gov/asd/altpath)

Contact: [Troops to Teachers State Director](#), or Sharon Turley, Education Program Specialist, Transition to Teaching. (602) 364-3553, [sturley@ade.az.gov](mailto:sturley@ade.az.gov)



## JROTC

The four branches each have programs established in Arizona high schools. There are eleven vacancies in Arizona for Army JROTC instructors alone! I believe we have teachers perfect for these positions. There will be a link on the AZ Troops to Teachers page shortly about Army JROTC.

([www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers](http://www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers))

For more information on JROTC programs for each branch consult the following:

Army

[www.usarmyjrotc.com](http://www.usarmyjrotc.com)

Air Force

[www.afOATS.af.mil/AFJROTC](http://www.afOATS.af.mil/AFJROTC)

Marine Corps

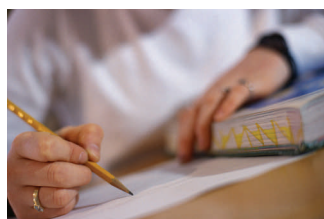
[www.mcjrotc.org/instructors](http://www.mcjrotc.org/instructors)

Navy

[www.njrotc.org](http://www.njrotc.org)



## Teacher Prep Programs



What Program Should You Choose to Become a Teacher in Arizona? Let the Troops to Teachers staff offer suggestions/guidance.

You may recall from the last newsletter, I outlined three programs: Teach for a Change (through University of Great Falls and Bellevue), North Central University, and Teach For America.

Here is some great information on another recommended teacher prep program.

Grand Canyon University

[www.gcu.edu/online/education.php](http://www.gcu.edu/online/education.php)

GCU has available scholarship that reduce the tuition from \$390 per credit to \$250 per credit. This is available to active duty and spouses, retirees and spouses, reserve/guard and spouses, vets (within 10 years of separation) and spouses. GCU also has waivers for

the \$100 application fee and \$100 graduation assessment for the same individuals. GCU programs are degree programs culminating in an M.Ed. degree. Courses are online (except student teaching)

Elementary Ed (45cr) = \$11,250

Secondary Ed (30cr) = \$7,500

Special Ed (45cr) = \$11,250



## Veteran's News...

### ARIZONA TAKES INITIATIVE FOR ITS VETS

Governor Janet Napolitano's 2007 Executive Budget, released recently, focuses on the state's veterans. The Governor revealed this focus when she introduced her budget to the state legislature, stating, "The risks and sacrifices that veterans have made on behalf of our nation warrant our unfading appreciation and our commitment to accommodate their unique needs. Approximately 585,000 veterans are living in Arizona, and that population is certain to grow." An Arizona Veterans Task Force, created in June 2005 reported later in 2005 that services and benefits provided to Arizona's veterans was inadequate. The Governor's budget includes the following:

- \$10.1 million to build the Southern Arizona State Veteran Home (to join the 200 bed Arizona State Veterans Home at 3rd St. and Indian School Road)
- 1.7 million for 40 new veterans benefit counselors, support staff, and veteran outreach programs statewide.
- 121,500 for maintenance and operation of the Southern Arizona Veterans Cemetery
- 182,700 to begin the process of building a new cemetery in northern Arizona.

For a detailed information on the Governor's 2007 Executive Budget, visit [www.ospb.stat.az.us/](http://www.ospb.stat.az.us/)

For more information on the State Veterans Home, visit <http://www.azdvs.gov/stateveteranhome.htm>.

## Upcoming Events

March 18th - Teacher Job Fair—Catalina Foothills School District - Catalina Foothills High School (4300 E. Sunrise Dr, Tucson), 0800-1500

<http://www.cfsd.k12.az.us/humanresources/jobfair06.html>

March 27th - Teacher Recruitment Expo - Chandler Unified School District, Noon-6pm, Hamilton High School (3700 S. Arizona Ave, Chandler), 1200-1830 <http://www2.chandler.k12.az.us/human-resources/>

April 1 - Tri-District Teacher Job Fair (Tempe Union High School District, Tempe Elementary District, Kyrene School District), 0900-1230, Compadre High School (500 W. Guadalupe Rd, Tempe) [http://www.kyrene.org/hr/jobfair2006\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.kyrene.org/hr/jobfair2006_flyer.pdf)

April 11 — Great Arizona Teach-In, Phoenix Civic Plaza, 1200-2000pm  
<http://www.teachinaz.com/ecf.html>

April 27th - 2nd Annual Indian Education Teacher Job Fair 2006, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Albuquerque Convention Center, Southwest Exhibit Hall (401 2nd St NW, Albuquerque), 1100-1700 ([www.biaeducationjobs.com](http://www.biaeducationjobs.com))

May 16&17—Luke AFB Job Fair, Desert Star Enlisted Club, 0900-1400 (Troops to Teachers will be present only on May 16th)

## KUDO's

A hearty congratulations to Troop to Teacher Amos Chiarappa at Chinle High School. Amos coordinated and registered a group of 18 Chinle High School students into the FIRST Robotics competition in partnership with NASA and Microchip Technologies, a Chandler based developer of micro-controllers and semiconductors. The team recently competed in the Phoenix Regional, against 45

teams from the US, Canada and Mexico. The robot designed and constructed by the high school students carries the name Navajo Heroes, honoring the four Navajo's who have given the ultimate sacrifice in the conflict in Iraq. This was the first all Native American student team in the history of the competition.

For more information on the FIRST Robotics Competition visit [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org).



Chinle High School student making some circuitry adjustments to the "brain" of robot "Navajo Heroes."

## Mentoring

If you are currently teaching (preferably 3+ years), and would be interested in mentoring new Troop Teachers, please review the mentoring guidelines at the national Troops to Teachers web page: [www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes\\_web/troopstoteachers/mentor/mentor1.htm?Flag=True](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/troopstoteachers/mentor/mentor1.htm?Flag=True)

If you'd like to be added to the state Troops web page to mentor AZ Troops, please notify the [AZ Troops to Teachers State Director](#)

## Arizona Troops to Teachers

1535 West Jefferson  
Bin #46, Room #121  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Phone: 800-839-2134 / Fax: 602-542-1141

John Scheuer, Director  
[jscheue@ade.az.gov](mailto:jscheue@ade.az.gov)  
602-542-4257

Josie Luna, Program Assistant  
[jluna@ade.az.gov](mailto:jluna@ade.az.gov)  
602-542-3201

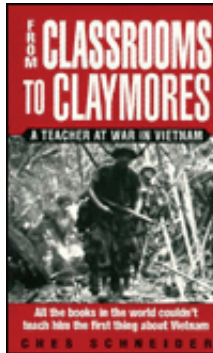
"Proud to Serve Again"

[www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)  
[www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers](http://www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers)



[www.pathway2teach.org](http://www.pathway2teach.org)

## Recommended Reading

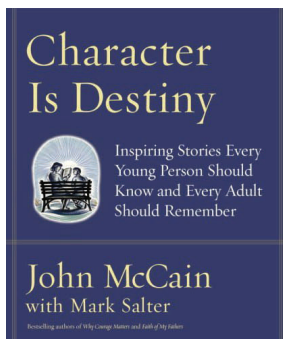


*From Classrooms to  
Claymores: A Teacher  
at War in Vietnam*

Ches Schneider.

I was much older than most of the other men in my unit. (I was drafted 30 days before my 26th birthday, had I made the age of 26, I would have been draft exempt, and this book would not have been written.) Also I served in the 1st Air Cavalry Division, not the 1st Air Vietnam. While I did have myself most of the time and did get a Good Conduct Medal, it was for the 25 plus air assaults into enemy territory that I received the Air Medal. Readers will find my book different from the typical Vietnam book. While I do tell my share of shoot-em up stories (What war vet wouldn't?), about 50% of the book relates the humorous tales of survival in the the jungle and on forward fire support bases. I believe that you will enjoy reading about my year in Vietnam.

Ches Schneider, March 13, 1999



*Character is Destiny: Inspiring  
Stories Every Young Person  
Should Know and Every Adult  
Should Remember*

John McCain  
with Mark Salter

McCain's latest volume uses biography as an illustration of virtue, but this time the senator broadens his palette significantly, telling 34 stories of heroes whose lives embody qualities ranging from honesty and loyalty to curiosity and enthusiasm. At the root of them all, he says, is a willingness to stay true to one's conscience against all challenges. Thus martyrs appear prominently, from Thomas More and Joan of Arc to Edith Cavell and Father Maximilian Kolbe, as do military heroes, including Pat Tillman, the pro football player whose love of country led him to enlist in the army shortly after 9/11. But the pantheon is inclusive enough to hold Aung San Suu Kyi and Gandhi alongside Churchill and Eisenhower. Although he is reaching out to a younger readership, McCain's plain but sincere language does not condescend to his audience. He makes occasional oblique references to his experiences as a prisoner of war—describing, for example, how they reinforce his understanding of Victor Frankl's concept of dignity—but the only chapter centered on his ordeal highlights a furtive moment of kindness from a Vietnamese soldier. (Publishers Weekly)



Arizona Department of Education  
Tom Horne, Superintendent of Public Instruction

A stylized illustration of the Arizona State Capitol dome and a palm tree to its left. The dome is purple and white, and the palm tree is black. The background consists of concentric purple and blue circles.

# GREAT ARIZONA TEACH-IN

## Educational Career Fair

1st Annual Great Arizona Teach-In  
Phoenix Civic Plaza

April 11, 2006 • 12 pm - 8 pm

Registration and Information  
[www.TeachinAZ.com](http://www.TeachinAZ.com)

• On-site Interviews • Educational Resources • Career Information